

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application and claims in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 50-53, 55-71, 89 and 90 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-49, 54 and 72-88 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Claims 50-53, 55-71, 89 and 90 were rejected.

Claim 50 has now been amended. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in paragraphs [0015] and [0030] of the original specification.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 50-53, 55-71, 89 and 90 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 7,307,958 to Lee et al. ("Lee") in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0195006 by Choong et al. ("Choong"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Lee describes a method of tunneling voice data using a software-defined vocoder. *See* Lee, Abstract. The software-defined vocoder may be stored in the network and downloaded to a handset or stored in the handset. *See* Lee, Abstract.

Choong also describes a vocoder, which is a device for compressing and decompressing a digital speech signal. *See* Choong, paragraph [0004]. Accordingly, a voice signal is digitized before being compressed by the vocoder. *See* Choong, paragraph [0044].

Independent claim 50 of the present application has now been amended so as to recite "implementing, in the at least one of the plurality of telecommunication terminals, the at least one program for use at least for a duration of a communication connection to process the digitized speech signal so as to increase a speech recognition quality of the speech data." It is

respectfully submitted that Lee and Choong, alone or in combination fail to disclose or suggest the foregoing features of amended claim 50.

In contrast, the vocoders of Lee and Choong merely compress speech data so that it may be transmitted without delays. *See* Lee, col. 1, lines 51-55 and Choong, paragraph [0002]. Thus, the vocoders do not increase any speech recognition quality of the speech data, but merely compress the digitized speech signal so that it can be decompressed and reproduced. Accordingly, Lee and Choong, alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest processing the digitized speech signal so as to increase a speech recognition quality of the speech data as required by amended claim 50.

Because any combination of Lee and Choong, to the extent proper, fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-recited features of amended claim 50, they cannot render claim 50 or any of its dependent claims 50-53, 55-71, 89 and 90 obvious. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the respective rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Lee and Choong is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

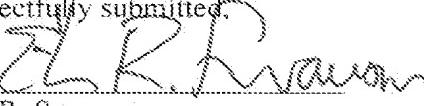
In view of the foregoing amendments and arguments, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any unpaid fees deemed required in connection with this submission, including any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 12-1216.

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Respectfully submitted,

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